

REMARKS

Claim 5 is pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claim 5 are amended, and claims 1-4 and 6-22 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on June 19, 2006. The Examiner is requested to consider the disclosed information and return an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 in the next communication.

The Office Action objects to the title. The title is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,575,581 to Tsurushima. The rejection is moot with respect to canceled claims 6-9. The rejection of claim 5 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 is directed to a rear-type projector. The claim 5 rear-type projector includes a laser beam source, a screen and a screen monitoring unit therein, and a housing that covers an optical path from the laser beam source to the backside of the screen. As shown in Fig. 11 and described in the specification at page 42, lines 19-21 and page 44, lines 19-22, for example, the laser beams from color laser beam sources 1101R, 1101G, 1101B are projected to the screen 1110 from the backside, such that an observer observes the light that has penetrated through the screen 1110 (page 44, lines 9-10).

Tsurushima is directed to a front-type projector, in which the laser beam is projected onto the front side of the screen, and a safety mechanism for preventing the laser beams from irradiating any viewer who inadvertently intrudes into the projector area, using a detection wave source 5 projecting a detection wave (Fig. 1 and col. 4, lines 15-20). Tsurushima teaches that the detection wave is projected onto a display screen along with the laser beam so

that the laser beam is instantaneously shut down when an obstacle (e.g., viewer) intruding into the projection area of the laser beam is detected by the detection wave (Abstract). In addition, Tsurushima does not teach or suggest the claimed housing.

At least for these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 5 is patentable over Tsurushima. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claim 5 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 30, 2006

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